

From: [Angela Herrera](#)
To: Cordial_E@cde.state.co.us
Subject: Pueblo School District 60 strike
Date: Thursday, May 10, 2018 8:38:58 AM
Attachments: [31899994_1855212824531165_6496691643599552512_n.jpg](#)

Dear Mrs. Cordial

As you probably are aware, the teachers in District 60 are on strike. Being a parent, a taxpayer and a voter, I am concerned. The administration especially the superintendent, Charlotte Macaluso, does not seem committed to resolving this issue. I was informed yesterday, she even took a personal day off yesterday instead of working towards a resolution. As it stands now, negotiations are not set to occur until Saturday, May 12th when she returns. The school board also cancelled a meeting last night to avoid dealing with this issue.

I see the numbers on decreasing enrollment, administrative pay increases, the superintendent hiring 3 assistance who each make more than any of the teachers striking and an administration/school board who seem out of touch with the individual needs of the schools. I can understand why District 60 is having such a difficult time with keeping students and teachers. We currently have an administration and school board who demonstrates that they do not care about our children.

I am in a position where I can afford to take my children out of District 60 and either enroll them in private school or transport them to District 70 schools, but I love the teachers who have been teaching my children all year. I am aware though that I may need to look into one of these options if this administration in Pueblo City Schools continues to ignore the needs of this community.

I see first hand how the schools are severely lacking on basic necessities. Parents are asked to bring more and more supplies, library books are taped together for as long as possible, some of the schools in Pueblo don't even have air conditioning so have had to close their doors early in the school year when the weather is too hot, and some schools have old playground equipment. I've seen outdated text books. We are constantly being asked to contribute to fundraisers for the schools. My children have become mini sales people since kindergarten.

I have to question where are our taxpayer dollars going? Are they being managed appropriately? I am aware our administrators are being paid well, but how about our schools? Who is overseeing these budgets?

It is my hope that my children will be allowed to go back to school next week, but I am not hopeful since the administration and school board do not want to resolve the issues fairly. I've seen nothing but bullying tactics from them as they try to force teachers back to work. (As you

can see in the letter sent to all the teachers attached). It's disheartening to see how much these schools have suffered under the current administration. I remember when they were so much stronger and the students performed so much better.

I realize I am just a tiny voice in a vast ocean of parents, but I hope that the Colorado Board of Education will step up and take a look at what is going on down in Pueblo, Colorado. Our students and teachers deserve better and I'm sure they would all like to return to school, but the administrators need to start putting the needs of the school before their own agendas.

Angela Herrera

Mother, Taxpayer and registered voter